

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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# INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT **Industrial and Military Installations in Minsk**

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1. Minsk, the capital of the White Russian SSR, had before the war about 500,000 inhabitants. After the war, the number of inhabitants diminished to about 300,000. But the city is now developing both as an industrial and military center. Numerous dwellings for civilians as well as military settlements are now being constructed. Large industrial units are in planning and construction stage.
2. Here are some of the industrial establishments in Minsk:
  - A. Cable factory.
  - B. Iron and steel foundry, the construction of which was completed in 1948. Output: 120,000 tons iron (stopa latwokruszaca), 80,000 tons of steel, 60,000 others.
  - C. Motor repair shops.
  - D. MAZ - Minsk Automobile Factory, situated 7 kilometers from city's center. Director: M. Kokin. The factory was completed in 1948 and comprises an area of 100,000 square meters. It produces trucks of the AZ-200-A type, trailers of 5 to 7 tons, automobiles similar to Chevrolet and spare parts.
  - E. Minsk Tractor Factory, the construction of which began in 1945. The planned output for 1950 - 5,000 tractors. The factory is equipped with modern machinery like precision lathes (obrabiaarki), and produces tractors of the "Kirowiec" D-35 type with modern, economical Diesel engines.
  - F. Chemical factory (details closely guarded).
  - G. Bicycle factory.
  - H. Lathes factory.
3. Minsk is an important communication center joining Mohylev, Stolpce, Homel and Orsza. Numerous military depots are situated around the city. One MVD division, decorated with the Red Banner, and equipped with armored cars, motorized artillery and tanks, is stationed in and around the city. Divisional headquarters are in the MVD building at Sowlecka Str. One MVD frontier guard regiment is also stationed in Minsk.
4. In accordance with the military doctrine adopted by the Soviet Army after the Second World War, the party leadership and the military command of the White Russian Republic undertook all possible steps to secure self-sufficiency in

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case of a new war. To achieve this aim, the authorities of the White Russian SSR must be furnished with all the necessary means to conduct defensive and offensive operations. Minsk as the nerve center of the Republic must be, therefore, able to exert direction and control over the Republic's industry, economy, armed forces and party apparatus. Consequently, the following establishments are situated there:

- A. Small civilian and military airfield. As last seen, there were 10 "Kukuruzniki" - U2 on the landing ground. The airfield, unsuitable for heavy bombers, is guarded by MVD detachments.
- B. Freight and passenger railroad stations with about 30 lines.
- C. Government building of the White Russian SSR housing the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic, the Council of Ministers and Ministries. The building was constructed by German architects and completed in 1933. It has 7 to 9 floors.
- D. Repair shops for locomotives and railroad cars.
- E. MVD and MGB of the White Russian SSR.
- F. Prison.
- G. Central Committee and the secretariat of the White Russian Communist Party with the First Secretary of the Central Committee, Pomarenko.
- H. Headquarters and barracks of one cavalry regiment.
- I. Central building of the Soviet Army for soldiers of all units.
- J. Electricity works.
- K. Infantry regiment.
- L. Military hospital and clinics serving civilians and military.
- M. Military settlement "Uruczie", in which one artillery division is stationed. The division has a school for junior commanders, a small airfield, three aircraft of the U2 type. The guns are mechanized.
- N. The 100th Infantry Division. One of the regiments bears the number "85".
- O. Radio equipment factory. Part of the machinery was brought from Wilno, others from Germany.
- P. Broadcasting station in the village of Kolodniki, hidden in woods.
- Q. Military settlement in which one engineer regiment is stationed.
- R. Headquarters of one MVD division and one motorized MVD regiment.

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